THE HON'BLE Ms. JUSTICE G. ROHINI

WRIT PETITION No.16376 OF 2007

ORAL ORDER:

The writ petitioner is the authorized dealer of the fair price shop Kommanakalava village of Chinnagottigillu Mandal, Chittoor District. His authorisation was suspended pending enquiry into certain alleged irregularities in distribution of the essential commodities vide proceedings of the 2nd respondent dated 20.2.2007. The said order is challenged in this writ petition contending that all the allegations made against the petitioner are false and without any basis and that the impugned order of suspension is unwarranted and unjustified.

I have heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Government Pleader for Civil Supplies appearing for the respondents.

Since the correctness of the allegations is the subject matter of enquiry pending before the 2nd respondent, it is neither necessary nor proper for this Court to express any opinion on merits. However, as held by a Division Bench this Court in **The Joint Collector, Kurnool v. A. Neelima**[1] the reasonable period for completing the enquiry initiated against the fair price shop dealer should be 90 days. In the circumstances, I am of the opinion that the 2nd respondent is not justified in keeping the enquiry pending since February, 2007 onwards.

Accordingly the writ petition is disposed of with a direction to the 2nd respondent to complete the enquiry initiated against the petitioner and pass appropriate orders in accordance with law as expeditiously as possible, preferably within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order, failing which, the authorisation of the petitioner shall stand restored. No costs.

(G. ROHINI, J).

2nd August, 2007.
Kgr

THE HON'BLE Ms. JUSTICE G. ROHINI

WRIT PETITION No.16376 OF 2007

2nd August 2007.

Between:

K. Krishnaiah. .. Petitioner.

And

The Joint Collector,
Chittoor, Chittoor District and another. ..Respondents.

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[1] 1996(1) APLJ 385.